RESOLUTION NO. 7158

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SOUTH PASADENA, CALIFORNIA, DESIGNATING THE DAVID M. RAAB FAMILY HOMESTEAD AT 1107 BUENA VISTA STREET AS A CULTURAL HERITAGE LANDMARK (LANDMARK NO. 53)

WHEREAS, Section 2.62 of the South Pasadena Municipal Code, Ordinance No. 2004 ("Cultural Heritage Ordinance") authorized the Cultural Heritage Commission ("the Commission") to recommend to the City Council the designation of appropriate properties as landmarks; and

WHEREAS, a landmark nomination form and report ("the nomination") was prepared by Glen Duncan and has been submitted to the Commission for consideration of the David M. Raab Family Homestead located at 1107 Buena Vista Street ("the property") as a local landmark; and

WHEREAS, on January 20, 2011, the Commission reviewed the nomination and initiated the landmark designation process; and

WHEREAS, the Commission has complied with the applicable provisions of Subsection (a) (3) "Designation Procedure" of the above Ordinance Section in that it visited the site, attempted diligently and in good faith to meet with the property owner, mailed notices, held a duly noticed public hearing, and received public comment; and

WHEREAS, the Commission found that the research and documentation contained in the nomination amply demonstrate the qualifications of the property to be a designated landmark; and

WHEREAS, on April 21, 2011, the Commission held a public hearing and voted to forward its recommendation to the City Council; and

WHEREAS, on June 1, 2011, the City Council held a public hearing on the proposed designation and received public testimony.

NOW, THEREFORE, THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SOUTH PASADENA, CALIFORNIA, DOES RESOLVE, DECLARE, DETERMINE AND ORDER AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1. The City Council considered the designation criteria contained in the Cultural Heritage Ordinance and makes the following findings:

1. ***The City Council finds that the character, interest, or value of this resource is a part of the heritage of the community;***
The early development of the residence and property at 1107 Buena Vista Street reflected the growing prosperity of the David M. Raab Family Homestead during the period of significance circa 1875 to 1921. The original house at 1107 Buena Vista was a one-story structure when it was built circa 1875. The original architecture is described as Victorian Vernacular Farmhouse. There were two major remodels at the turn of the 20th Century which give the house most of its present character. The architectural style of the house is now considered to be an eclectic mix of Eastlake/Queen Anne, Western Stick, with Mission Revival Prairie and Chateauesque Arts & Crafts influences.

2. ***The City Council finds that this resource is identified with a person, persons or groups who significantly contributed to the culture and development of the city, state or United States;***
The property at 1107 Buena Vista Street is identified as the home of South Pasadena's first pioneer settler, David M. Raab. Mr. Raab purchased 60 acres of undeveloped land from the former Rancho San Pasqual. Raab's property was generally bounded by what is now known as Buena Vista Street to the north, El Centro Street to the south, Fremont Avenue to the east, and Meridian Avenue to the west. By 1887, Mr. Raab had sold half of his property which included parcels that would become a large portion of South Pasadena's central business district near Mission Street and Meridian Avenue. Mr. Raab greatly benefited from the residential building boom of the 1880s. His land was sold to many new settlers to South Pasadena including President Garfield's widow and Howard Longley, one of South Pasadena's first mayors.
The prosperity Raab earned from his real estate development allowed his family to establish a dairy business known as the Oak Hill Dairy in 1888. It is reportedly South Pasadena's first commercial establishment. David Raab was credited with being one of the first men in America to furnish his patrons with pasteurized milk. The successful business expanded out into El Monte, Whittier, and Orange County. In 1898, the dairy was incorporated as the Raab Creamery and Dairy. After David Raab's untimely death in 1905, his sons carried on with the dairy enterprise. His widow continued to sell off residential parcels to the waves of new settlers that came to South Pasadena. The dairy production eventually shifted to other locations in Southern California.

During David M. Raab's 45-year career, he served as a trustee of the Corporation of South Pasadena, he served several terms as a school trustee, and was an honored member of the Society of Los Angeles Pioneers.

SECTION 2. Based on the evidence presented in the staff report, testimony received during the public hearing, minutes, other record of proceeding, and its findings herein, the City Council hereby approves the designation of the "David M. Raab Family Homestead" at 1107 Buena Vista Street as official Historic Landmark Number 53.

SECTION 3. The City Council directs the City Clerk to file the appropriate designation with the office of the Los Angeles Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk.

PASSED, APPROVED AND ADOPTED ON this 1st day of June, 2011.

Mike Ten, Mayor

ATTEST:

Sally Kilby, City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Richard L. Adams II, City Attorney

I HEREBY CERTIFY the foregoing resolution was duly adopted by the City Council of the City of South Pasadena at a regular meeting held on the 1st day of June, 2011, by the following vote:

AYES: Cacciotti, Putnam, Schneider, Sifuentes and Mayor Ten

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAINED: None

Sally Kilby, City Clerk